

## CLAIMS

1. Method for clearing an overload situation in a telecommunication system comprising:

- a first network element (LE);
- 5 a second network element (AN);
- subscriber ports ( $1; 1^1, 1^2, 1^3, \dots$ ) comprised in said network elements (LE, AN); and
- an interface (V5) connecting the subscriber ports of the first network element (LE) to the subscriber
- 10 ports of the second network element (AN),

in which telecommunication system:

- a subscriber's call attempt is transmitted by the second network element (AN) to the first network element (LE);
- 15 it is detected that the signalling channel between the network elements (LE, AN) and/or the first network element (LE) are/is overloaded;

the subscriber's call attempt is inhibited in the first network element (LE);

- 20 characterized in that the method comprises the steps of:

causing a notice advising that the subscriber's call attempt is to be inhibited in the second network element (AN) to be sent by the first network element

25 (LE) to the second network element (AN); and

inhibiting the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).

- 2. Method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that the subscriber's call attempt is
- 30 inhibited in the second network element (AN) during a period of time prescribed by the first network element (LE).

- 3. Method as defined in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the inhibition of the
- 35 subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled if the overload situation in

the signalling channel and/or first network element (LE) is cleared.

4. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 3, characterized in that  
 5 the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled even if the period of time prescribed by the first network element (LE) has not yet elapsed.

5. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 4, characterized in that  
 10 a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber is performed in the first network element (LE); and  
 the subscriber's call attempts are inhibited in the second network element (AN) if the result of the  
 15 priority class analysis permits it.

6. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 5, characterized in that,  
 in the case of a terminating call,  
 the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in  
 20 the second network element (AN) is cancelled; and  
 the call is set up in the normal manner.

7. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 6, characterized in that  
 the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.

8. System for clearing an overload situation  
 25 in a telecommunication system comprising:

a first network element (LE);  
 a second network element (AN);  
 subscriber ports ( $1$ ;  $1^1$ ,  $1^2$ ,  $1^3$ , ...) comprised in  
 30 said network elements (LE, AN); and

an interface (V5) connecting the subscriber ports of the first network element (LE) to the subscriber ports of the second network element (AN),

in which telecommunication system:  
 35 a subscriber's call attempt is transmitted by the second network element (AN) to the first network element (LE);

it is detected that the signalling channel between the network elements (LE, AN) and/or the first network element (LE) are/is overloaded;

the subscriber's call attempt is inhibited in the  
5 first network element (LE);

characterized in that the system comprises:

means (2) for causing the first network element (LE) to send a call inhibition notice to the second  
10 network element (AN); and

means (3) for inhibiting the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).

9. System as defined in claim 8, characterized in that system comprises means (4) for  
15 cancelling the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).

10. System as defined in claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the system comprises means (5) for performing a priority class analysis re-  
20 garding the subscriber.

11. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 10, characterized in that the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.

12. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 11, characterized in that  
25 the telecommunication system is a telephone exchange system.

13. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 12, characterized in that  
30 the first network element (LE) is a telephone exchange.